

CLAIMS

1. In a data processing system having a user terminal operated by a user which
builds a service for accessing a data base management system responsively
coupled to said user terminal via a publically accessible digital data
communication network , the improvement comprising:

a data wizard which permits said user to specify said service as an ordered
sequence of discreet and independent steps and which presents a plurality
of valid steps as choices for addition at each position in said plurality of
discreet and independent steps.

2. The improvement according to claim 1 wherein said publically accessible digital
data communication network further comprises the Internet.

3. The improvement according to claim 2 wherein said user terminal further
comprises an industry compatible personal computer having a commercially
available browser.

1 4. The improvement according to claim 3 wherein said data wizard inhibits
2 presentation of any step which would not be valid for the corresponding position
3 within said ordered sequence.

1 5. The improvement according to claim 4 wherein said data base management
2 system is Classic MAPPER.

1 6. An apparatus comprising:

2 a. a user terminal;

3 b. a data base management system responsively coupled to said user
4 terminal via a publically accessible digital data communication network;
5 and

6 c. a data wizard responsively coupled to said user terminal and said data
7 base management system which permits a service to be defined from said
8 user terminal in accordance with an ordered sequence of discreet and
9 independent steps and which presents a plurality of valid steps as choices
10 for addition to said plurality of steps for each step of said plurality of
11 ordered steps.

1 7. The apparatus of claim 6 wherein said publically accessible digital data
2 communication network further comprises the Internet.

1 8. The apparatus of claim 7 wherein said data wizard inhibits presentation of any
2 invalid step for any given one of said ordered sequence.

1 9. The apparatus of claim 8 wherein said user terminal further comprises an
2 industry compatible personal computer containing a web browser.

1 10. The apparatus of claim 9 wherein said data base management system further
2 comprises the MAPPER data base management system.

1 11. A method of dynamically building a service from a user terminal coupled via a
2 publically accessible digital data network to a remote data base management
3 system having a component building process comprising:

- 4 a. presenting a first plurality of potential steps which are valid for a first
5 position in an ordered sequence of steps which define said service;
- 6 b. inserting a chosen one of said first plurality of potential steps into said
7 ordered sequence of steps;
- 8 c. presenting a second plurality of potential steps which are valid for a
9 next position in said ordered sequence of steps;
- 10 d. inserting a chosen one of said second plurality of potential steps into
11 said ordered sequence of steps; and

12 e. repeating steps c and d until said service is complete.

1 12. A method according to claim 11 further wherein each of said presenting steps
2 inhibits presentation of any potential step which is not valid for said next position
3 within said ordered sequence of steps.

1 13. A method according to claim 12 wherein said publically accessible digital data
2 communication network further comprises the world wide web.

1 14. A method according to claim 13 wherein said user terminal further comprises
2 an industry compatible personal computer.

1 15. A method according to claim 14 wherein said remote data base management
2 system further comprises MAPPER data base management system.

1 16. An apparatus comprising:

2 a. means for permitting a user to access a publically accessible digital data
3 communication network;

4 b. means responsively coupled to said permitting means via said publically
5 accessible digital data communication network for providing data base
6 management services;

7 c. means responsively coupled to said permitting means and said responding
8 means for designing a service through specification of an ordered plurality of
9 discreet and independent steps; and

10 d. means responsively coupled to said designing means for presenting a
11 plurality of valid potential steps for selection of each of said ordered plurality
12 of discreet and independent steps.

1 17. An apparatus according to claim 16 wherein said presenting means further
2 comprises a means for inhibiting presentation of any step which is invalid for a
3 corresponding position within said ordered plurality of discreet and independent
4 steps.

1 18. An apparatus according to claim 17 wherein said publically accessible digital
2 data communication network further comprises the Internet.

1 19. An apparatus according to claim 18 wherein said responding means further
2 comprises MAPPER data base management system.

1 20. An apparatus according to claim 19 wherein said permitting means further
2 comprises an industry standard personal computer.